



General Assembly

February Session, 2016

***Raised Bill No. 261***

LCO No. 2008



Referred to Committee on VETERANS' AFFAIRS

Introduced by:  
(VA)

***AN ACT CONCERNING VETERANS SERVICES AT STATE COLLEGES  
AND UNIVERSITIES.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1       Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2016*) (a) The Board of Regents  
2       for Higher Education and the Board of Trustees for The University of  
3       Connecticut, as the case may be, shall establish at each constituent unit,  
4       as defined in section 10a-1 of the general statutes, an Operation  
5       Academic Support for Incoming Service Members (OASIS) center  
6       responsible for developing and offering programming and services  
7       focused on providing outreach and assistance to students who are  
8       veterans enrolled at such constituent unit.
- 9       (b) The Board of Regents for Higher Education and the Board of  
10       Trustees for The University of Connecticut, as the case may be, shall  
11       require that each constituent unit employ at least one dedicated full-  
12       time professional to staff the OASIS center at such constituent unit.  
13       Such professional shall have a demonstrated interest in the concerns of  
14       veterans and pursue opportunities for improving and increasing  
15       programming and services offered by such OASIS center.

16 (c) The Board of Regents for Higher Education and the Board of  
17 Trustees for The University of Connecticut shall adopt a plan for  
18 collaborating with each other and any veterans' service organization,  
19 which plan shall include, but not be limited to, holding an annual  
20 conference for any staff of the OASIS center at each constituent unit to  
21 (1) share best practices for and identify challenges in serving the  
22 student population at each such constituent unit who are veterans, (2)  
23 discuss efforts for improved communication and coordination of  
24 efforts to so serve such population, and (3) develop and update, as the  
25 case may be, enhanced behavioral intervention training for any staff  
26 working directly with students who are veterans.

27 (d) The OASIS center at each constituent unit may implement, as a  
28 component of its programming and services, some or all of the  
29 "Battlefield to Classroom" training developed by the Office of Veterans  
30 and Military Affairs at Southern Connecticut State University.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2016	New section

***Statement of Purpose:***

To implement recommendations of the study conducted by The Board of Regents for Higher Education, pursuant to special act 15-1, on programming available at OASIS centers at public institutions of higher education in this state.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*